



# NEWS

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## **CHP TRUCK SAFETY EFFORTS PAYING OFF**

**SACRAMENTO** – According to the California Highway Patrol (CHP), commercial truck collisions have significantly decreased over the past two years. “I’m pleased to report we are seeing some positive results from our combined enforcement/public awareness efforts,” CHP Commissioner D. O. ‘Spike’ Helmick said.

Truck-involved injury collisions declined 5.9%, (the equivalent of approximately 720 fewer injuries). Fatal collisions involving trucks fell 5.2%, (16 fewer deaths). Collisions where the truck driver was at fault also followed this trend with fatal crashes down 13.1% (19 fewer deaths), and injury collisions dropped 11.9%, (728 fewer injuries).

Over the past two years the CHP has utilized a combination of focused public awareness campaigns coupled with vigorous enforcement aimed at commercial vehicle drivers as well as passenger cars and pickups driving unsafely near commercial vehicles.

“The Department has used several tools to accomplish enhanced enforcement including the use of Specially Marked Patrol Vehicles (like the all-white Chevrolet Camaros), the addition of 150 commercial officers provided by the Legislature and the Governor, and truck safety grants funded by the Office of Traffic Safety and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration”, Helmick said.

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The grants helped to continue the CHP's innovative Commercial Industry Education Program and increased enforcement activities. "It's also important to note that we would not have been successful without the support of the trucking community as well as California motorists who are driving more carefully around trucks."

"These numbers are a good start. I will continue to commit the resources of the CHP 24/7 to keep the state's roads and highways safe for everyone who uses them," Helmick added.

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